

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite due so incorrect designations in the two independent claims from which all the claims 1-10 depend. The terms noted by the Examiner are the use of VCO where the inventive circuit is shown separately from the VCO. The preamble of claims 1 and 9 (the only independent claims) have been amended to use the term "buffer circuit." "Buffer circuit," is supported in original FIG. 1 where a loop buffer is shown referring to a circuit between the loop filter and the VCO. That is where the inventive circuit is shown in that embodiment.

As the Examiner pointed out, claim 1, line 6 is amended to read "a portion of the current..."

In claim 3, the added PNP diode is referenced more clearly.

In claim 4 the "series" reference replaces the "parallel" reference.

Claim 6 is canceled.

In claims 7 and 8 the use of "fourth" and fifth" has been replaced with functional descriptors in response to the Examiner's comment.

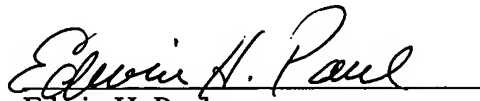
The Examiner indicates that original claim 1 is suggested by U.S. pat. no. 5,703,511 to Okamoto, but that claims 2-8 are allowable rewritten to overcome the 112 rejections. In response the present amendment cancels claim 2 and inserts its substance into claim 1. Thus making claims 1-8 (less the canceled claims 2 and 6) allowable.

PATENTS
112055-0068U
17732-66840.00

The Examiner cited that claims 9 and 10 are allowed. The present amendment corrects the preamble notation of claims 9 and 10.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Edwin H. Paul", written over a horizontal line.

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